

11th Submission

received on

5/11/2007

THE TEJON INDIAN TRIBE:

HALF-BLOOD COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION PURSUANT TO THE INDIAN REORGANIZATION ACT May 11, 2007

On June 30, 2006 the Tejon Indian Tribe filed a Request for Confirmation of Status which included a discussion concerning the eligibility of the Tribe's half-blood members to organize under the Indian Reorganization Act. The half-blood organization process allows a group of Indians of one-half or more Indian blood to acquire trust land (25 U.S.C. §§ 465, 467, 479) and adopt an IRA constitution (see 25 U.S.C. § 476 and 25 C.F.R. Part 81). For ease of reference, we have set forth below the relevant portions of the Indian Reorganization Act, and following that, the action steps inherent in the half-blood reorganization process.

INDIAN REORGANIZATION ACT - HALF BLOOD COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION (25 U.S.C. §§ 465, 467, 479, and 467)

§ 479 "The term '*Indian*' as used in this Act shall include ... all persons of one-half or more Indian blood."

"The term '*tribe*' wherever used in this Act shall be construed to refer to ... the *Indians residing* on one reservation."

§ 465 "The Secretary of the Interior is authorized ... to acquire ... any interest in lands ... for the purpose of providing land for *Indians*."

§ 467 "The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to proclaim new *reservations* on lands acquired pursuant to any authority conferred by this Act... ."

§ 476 Any *Indian tribe* shall have the right to organize for its common welfare, and may adopt an appropriate constitution and bylaws"

STEPS REQUIRED FOR ORGANIZATION OF HALF-BLOOD INDIANS

STEP 1

The Department of the Interior confirms that the Tejon tribal members seeking to organize are one-half or more Indian blood.

STEP 2

Tejon members of one-half or more Indian blood submit a fee-to-trust application pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 465 and request that the parcel be declared a reservation for the half-blood Indians pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 467.

STEP 4

After land is acquired in trust, half-blood Tejon members submit a petition to the Department requesting that the Secretary call an election to adopt a constitution and by-laws. The Petition must be signed by 60% of the adult half-blood Indians. 25 C.F.R. § 81.5(b).

STEP 3

The Department of the Interior acquires land in trust for the half-blood Tejon members pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 465 and may declare that parcel to be a reservation pursuant to § 467.

STEP 5

Interior provides at least 30 days (but not more than 60 days) prior notice of the election. 25 C.F.R. § 81.14. Authorization from Interior to hold an election to adopt a constitution must be acted on within 90 days from the date of issuance from the Secretary. 25 C.F.R. § 81.5(f).

STEP 6

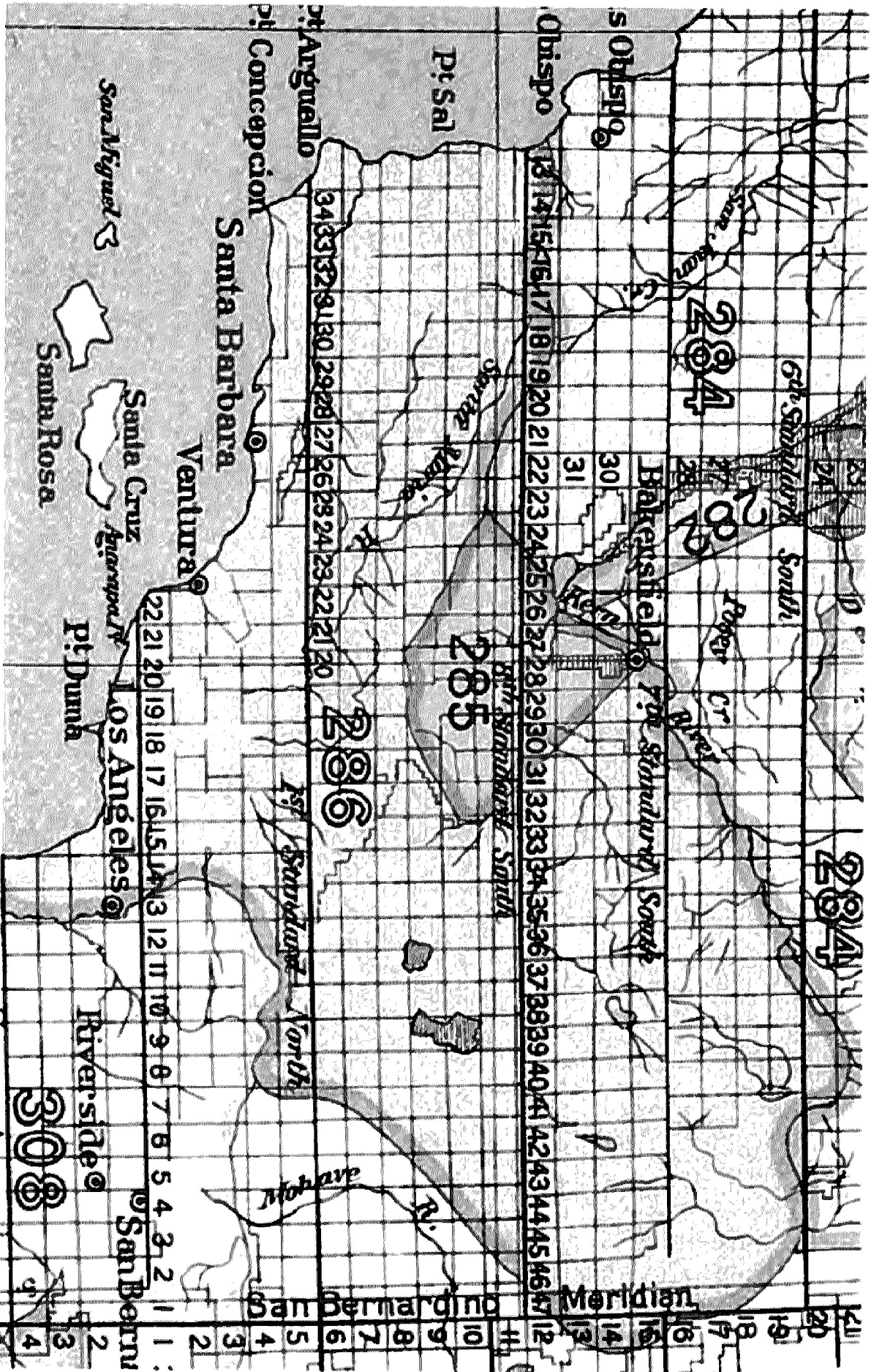
One BIA official and two tribal representatives must form an election board to conduct the election. 25 C.F.R. § 81.8.

STEP 8

Election held; Election Board certifies results; BIA official takes action to approve or disapprove adoption of constitution; approval is forwarded to the Assistant Secretary; Assistant Secretary approves constitution. See 25 C.F.R. §§ 81.15; 81.23; 81.24.

STEP 7

Election Board sends voter registration request to all eligible voters. Adult half-blood members for whom the land has been acquired in trust shall be entitled to vote in the election. 25 C.F.R. §§ 81.11; 81.6(b).

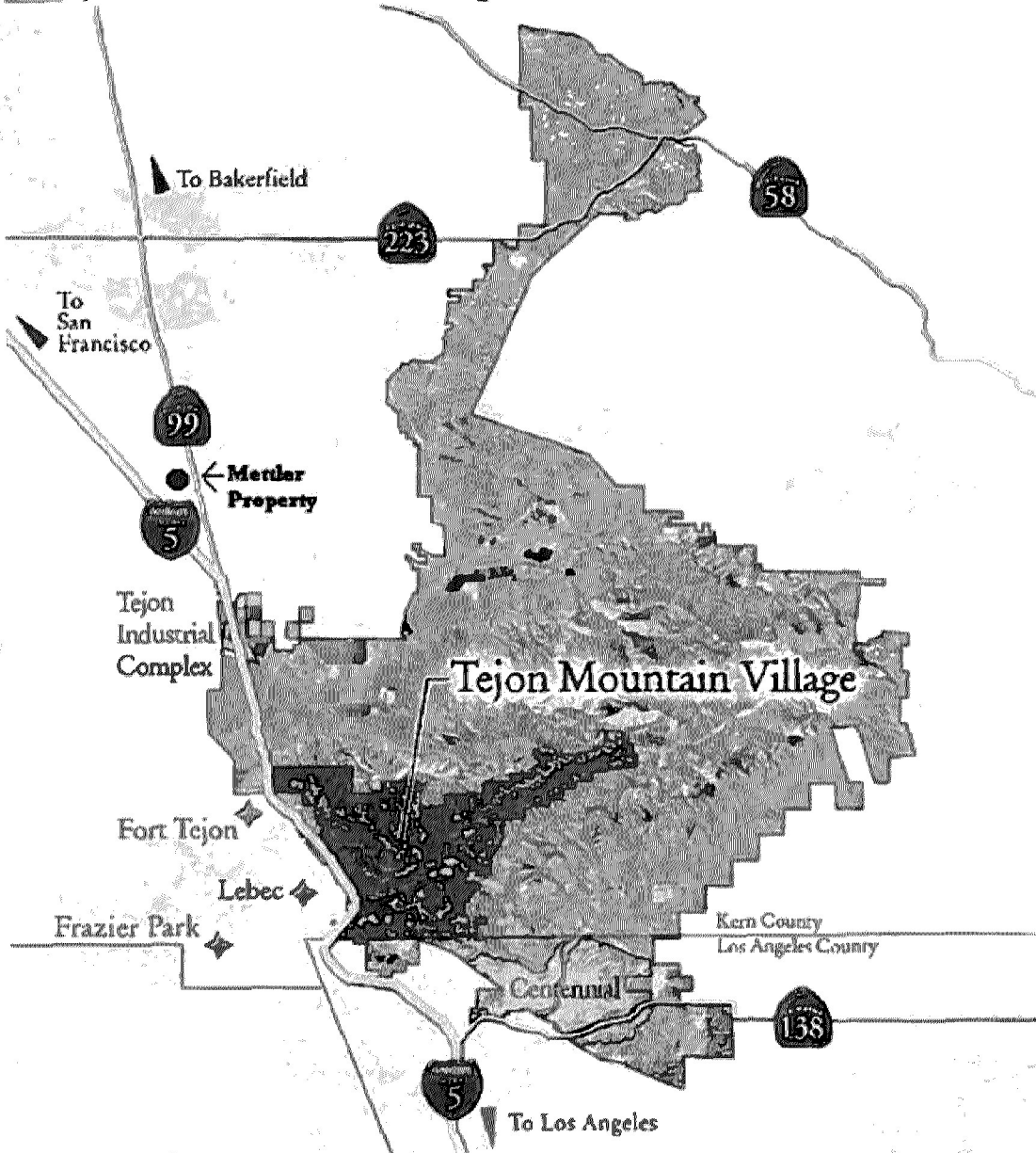


EXCERPT FROM CHARLES C. ROYCE MAP DEPICTING LAND CEDED IN 1851 TREATY WITH TEJON AND OTHER TRIBES (AREA 286)
AND LANDS RESERVED TO THE TRIBES IN THE 1851 TREATY (AREA 285)

Tejon Mountain Village

A 23,000-ACRE NATURE RESERVE MADE POSSIBLE BY A SENSITIVELY-PLANNED 5,000-ACRE MOUNTAIN RETREAT

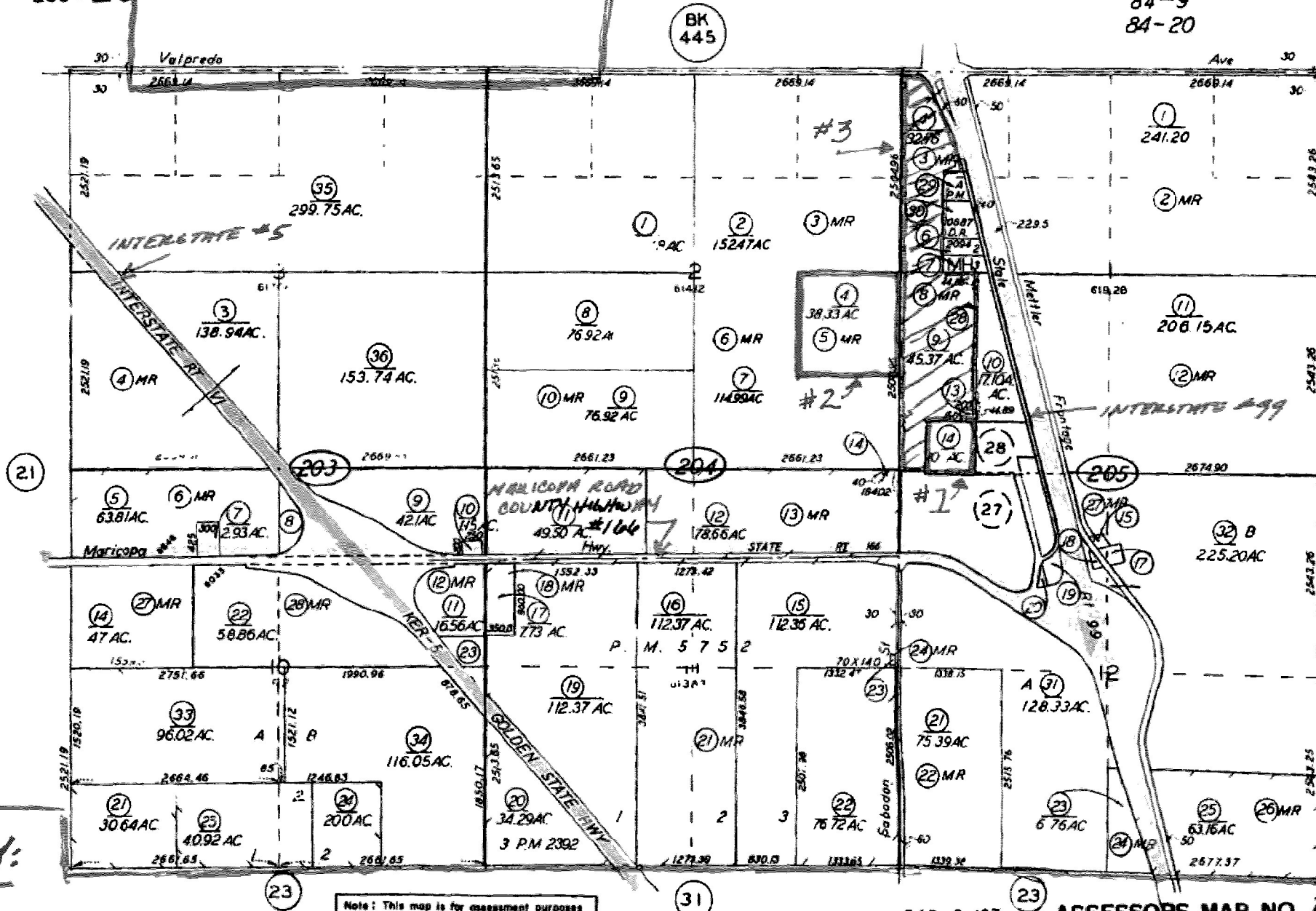
Tejon Ranch Context Map



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★ TEJON RANCH
PRESERVING CALIFORNIA'S HERITAGE
PROVIDING FOR A BETTER FUTURE

MAP OF TEJON RANCH AND APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF METTLER



KEY:

Revised: Dec. 8, 2005

Note: This map is for assessment purposes only. It is not to be construed as portraying legal ownership or divisions of land for purposes of zoning or subdivision law.

MH = For mobilehome A.P.N. see pg. 42

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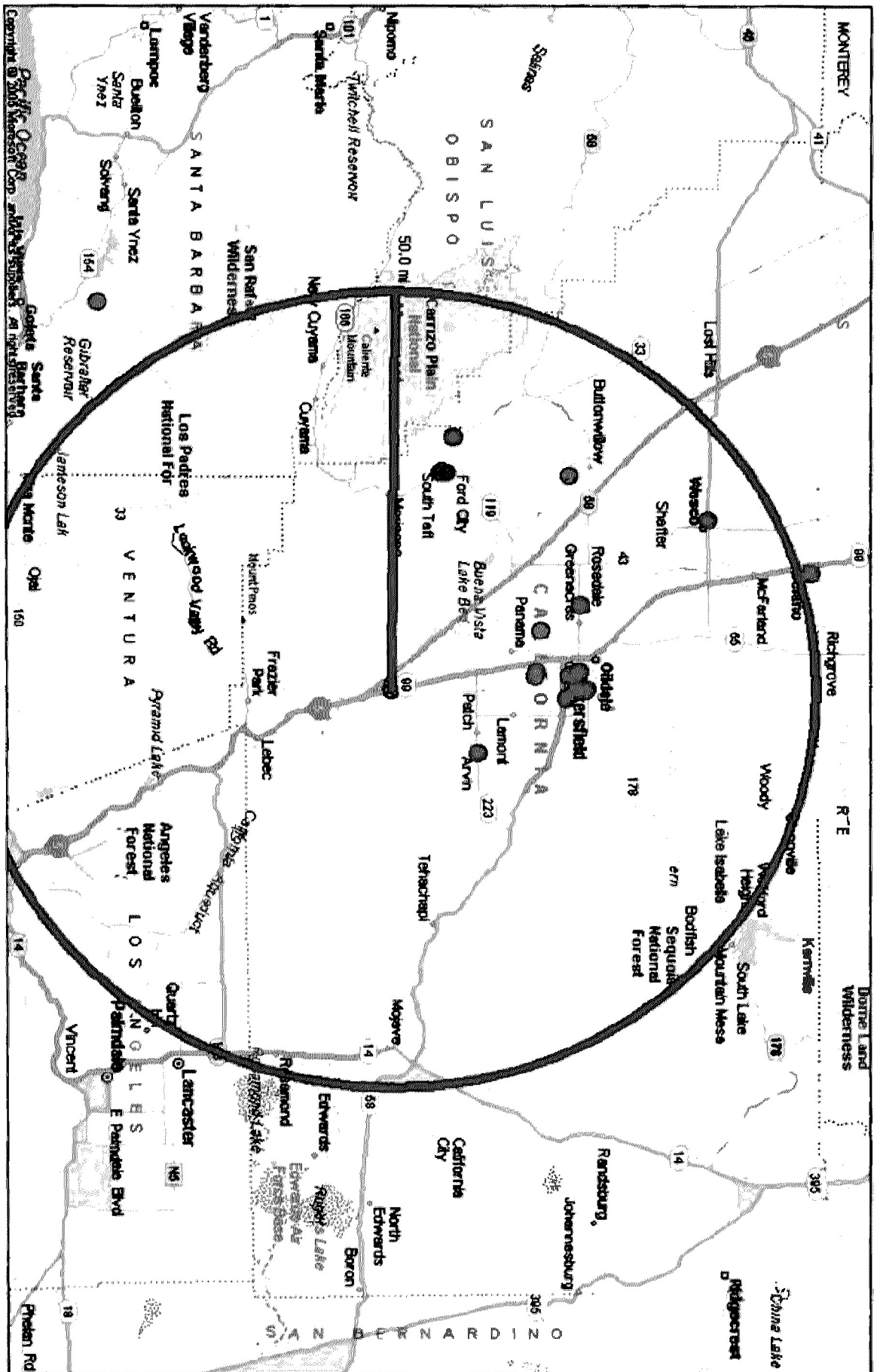
ASSESSORS MAP NO. 238-
COUNTY OF KERN

#1: 10 ACRES, SCHOOL AND RELATED BUILDINGS
(NONE CURRENTLY OCCUPIED)

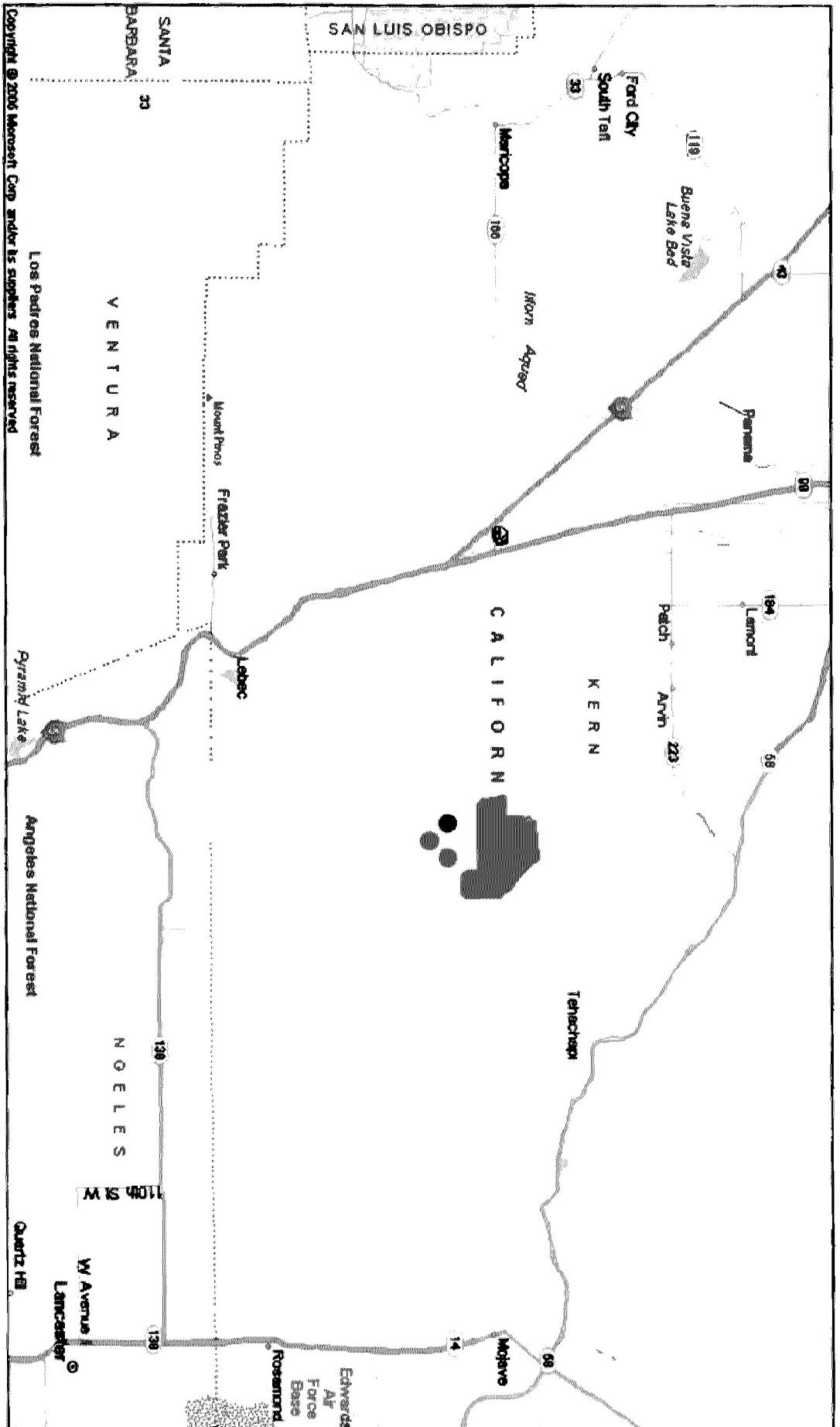
#2: ± 33 ACRES, 2 MOBILE HOMES, ONE SINGLE FAMILY HOME

#3 ± 77 ACRES, BUT MORE
EXPENSIVE AND UNDEVELOPED

acquire together



TEJON MEMBERS OF ONE-HALF OR MORE INDIAN BLOOD
 RESIDING WITHIN A 50-MILE RADIUS OF METTLER, CA (21 OUT OF 35)



LOCATION OF METTLER PROPERTY IN RELATION TO INTERIOR'S LAND CLAIM FILED ON BEHALF OF TRIBE
AND TEMPORARY RESERVATION ESTABLISHED BY INTERIOR (APPROXIMATELY 15 MILES)